

Message Text

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UNCLAS WELLINGTON 2086

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SUBJ: VISIT OF CHAIRMAN OF GNZ HOUSING COMMISSION

SUMMARY: CHAIRMAN OF NZ HOUSING COMMISSION PLANS
LENGTHY TOUR OF UNITED STATES AND ASKS ASSISTANCE IN
ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATE CONTACTS. VISIT OFFERS
OPPORTUNITY FOR USEFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH FEDERAL AND
STATE HOUSING OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES COMMERCIAL
BUILDERS AND BUILDING MATERIAL SUPPLIERS. END SUMMARY.

1. JOHN F. JEFFRIES, CHAIRMAN OF NEW ZEALAND'S
NATIONAL HOUSING COMMISSION PLANS VISIT US BEGINNING
MID-AUGUST FOR PERIOD UP TO 6 WEEKS. REQUESTS USG
ASSISTANCE FACILITATING VISIT AND PLANNING A USEFUL
ITINERARY. WILL ATTEND AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
CONFERENCE HONOLULU FOLLOWING WHICH HE WILL ARRIVE ON
WEST COAST ABOUT AUGUST 17 AND TRAVEL ACROSS CONTINENT TO
EAST COAST.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT IN BEST POSITION SUGGEST PROJECTS AND
AUTHORITIES TO VISIT. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SHOULD
ALERT HOME-BUILDING COMPANIES WHICH HAVE DEVELOPED
DEGREE EXPERTISE IN MODULAR BUILDING OR SIMILAR
ADVANCED TECHNIQUES. VIEW LOCAL SHORTAGES OF WIDE
VARIETY BUILDERS SUPPLIES IT COULD BE USEFUL FOR
MAJOR US SUPPLIERS TO MEET JEFFRIES.

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3. FOLLOWING ARE AREAS OF STUDY AND INTEREST

SUGGESTED BY MR. JEFFRIES.

A) US ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN HOUSING POLICY FIELD.

B) HOUSING POLICY FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING ROLE OF FEDERAL AGENCIES AND THEIR PROVISION FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING.

C) "NEW TOWNS" POLICIES, INCLUDING THE ROLE OF FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE IN FURTHERING GROWTH ON DECENTRALIZED BASIS. ROLE OF PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES IN PROMOTING DECENTRALIZATION.

D) ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR HOUSING; CONTROL OF RATE OF BUILDING, DETERMINING RATE OF FEDERAL AND STATE ASSISTANCE AND CONTROLS OVER SCARCE MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES.

E) MORTGAGE LENDING, SOURCE OF FUNDS, CONTROLS ON LENDING, AND INTEREST RATES, PERCENTAGE OF ADVANCES AGAINST VALUE, SPECIAL POLICIES FOR GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OR LOW INCOME AREAS.

F) URBAN RENEWAL INCLUDING FEDERAL, STATE, AND PRIVATE PARTICIPATION, GUIDELINES FOR RENEWAL AND REHABILITATION, SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY POLICIES FOR RENEWAL PROJECTS.

G) PUBLIC HOUSING; SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RACIAL OR INCOME GROUPS

H) HOUSING CONSTRUCTION; "TRENDS IN ONE-OFF CONSTRUCTION", MODULAR BUILDING, FACTORY (PREFABRICATION) BUILDING.

I) TOWN PLANNING; WHERE DOES RESPONSIBILITY LIE, IE ROLE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVT.

J) COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL FACILITIES IN HOUSING; RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVIDING FACILITIES IN NEW., OLDER AND RENEWAL AREAS, AND SOURCES OF FUNDS (IE FEDERAL UNCLASSIFIED

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STATE, PRIVATE GRANTS ETC.)

4. NATIONAL HOUSING COMMISSION RELATIVELY NEW (ESTABLISHED BY ACT DATED OCT. 13, 1972) AND EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS VISIT OFFERS AND EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR USG TO ASSIST AND ADVISE THE CHAIRMAN AND ALSO PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS OF BUILDING EXPERTISE AND SUPPLIES TO MEET A KEY OFFICIAL ON THEIR HOME GROUNDS. WOULD APPRECIATE PRELIMINARY

SUGGESTIONS BY MID JULY IN ORDER JEFFRIES CAN BEGIN
PLANNING ITINERARY. WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE
NAMES OF CONTACT OFFICERS IN HUD, COMMERCE AND OTHER
INTERESTED AGENCIES OR DEPARTMENTS.
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